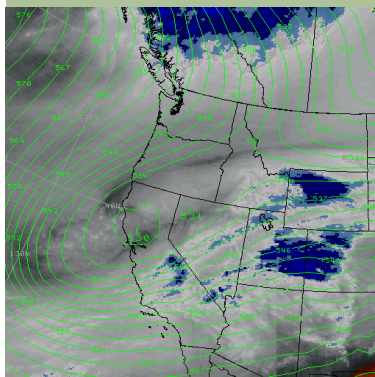


Volume 4, Number 2

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SERVING NWS WEATHER SPOTTERS, CO-OP OBSERVERS &
COCORAHNS OBSERVERS

SAGE WINDS

SAGE WINDS

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

BOISE, IDAHO

<http://www.weather.gov/boise>

MARCH 2011

BRRRR!

Late-February Cold Snap

On Thursday, February 24th, a strong surface high pressure system (1048 mb) and an associated arctic airmass were holding strong over northern British Columbia. By early Friday, the airmass had shifted southeastward — taking hold over southern British Columbia, all of Montana, and parts of the Dakotas. On late Friday night arctic air spilled into the Inter-mountain Region and local temperatures began to plummet. An image of minimum hourly temperatures can be seen below. Many low temperatures were even colder than these values (and were reached between hourly observation times).

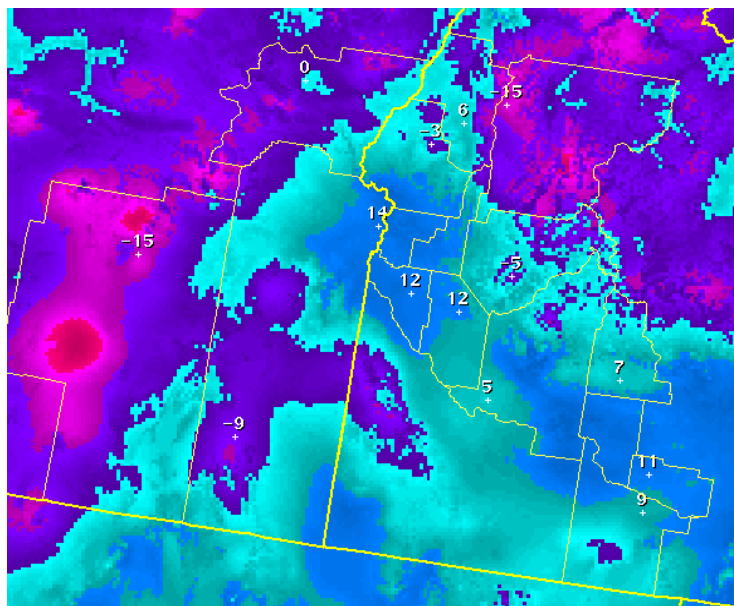
Burns, Oregon was particularly cold with a low temperature of -18°F , which set a new daily record! Other regional low temperatures were as follows:

Boise, ID:	12°F
McCall, ID:	-16°
Fairfield, ID:	7°
Twin Falls, ID:	7°
Caldwell, ID:	10°
Rome, OR:	-10°
Baker City, OR:	0°
Ontario, OR:	13°

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Minimum **hourly** temperatures for southeast Oregon and southwest Idaho on Saturday, February 26th, 2011.

Lightest blue indicates single digit temperatures. Purple indicates 0 to -10°F , while magenta indicates temperatures below minus 10°F ! State and county lines are in yellow, with selected city values in white font.





The CoCoRaHS March Madness competition is on!

Help us compete with other states by becoming, or recruiting, a new precipitation observer. Visit www.cocorahs.org, or click the “March Madness Banner” above, for more information on the CoCoRaHS observing program.

What is CoCoRaHS?

The Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow (CoCoRaHS) network is a non-profit organization of volunteers who take daily rain, snow, and hail measurements in their own backyards. These measurements are entered online daily at www.cocorahs.org, where they may be accessed by meteorologists, hydrologists, water resource managers, emergency managers, farmers/ranchers, and others.

The Cost of Weather

Tornadoes. Hurricanes. Wildfires. Floods. Flash Floods. Drought. All of these weather phenomena can, and do, destroy property. Sometimes these events are so catastrophic, that the financial cost of destruction is measured in *billions* of dollars.

The National Climatic Data Center, or NCDC, keeps records of natural disasters and their estimated financial cost due to property and agricultural loss. Recently, NCDC has updated this information to include events from 1980 through 2010.

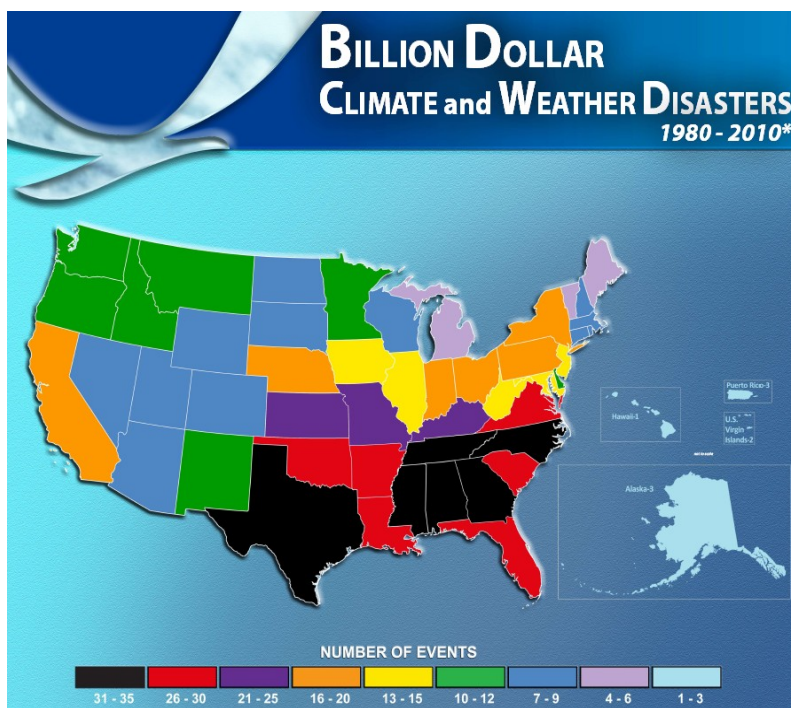
For more information, and a detailed listing of costly national and regional weather disasters, refer to the NCDC article “Billion Dollar U.S. Weather Disasters” at <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/reports/billionz.html>.

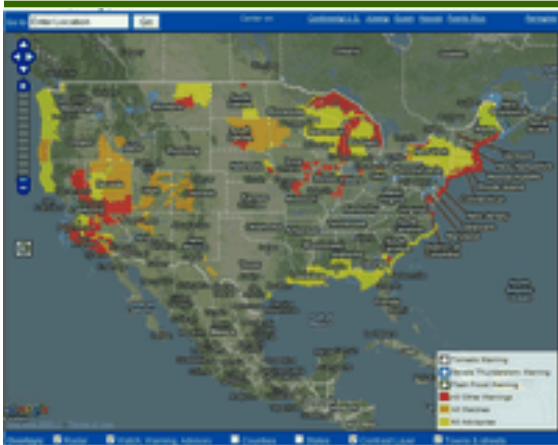
The map on the right reflects the total number of billion dollar events for each state. (However, this does not mean that each state shown suffered \$1 billion in losses for each event. Several billion-dollar events affected more than one state and may be counted as single events in multiple states.) The color-coding legend for “number of events” is located at the bottom.

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“The National Weather Service provides... forecasts and warnings....for the protection of life and property and enhancement of the national economy.”

-NWS Mission Statement





^ NWS is seeking comments on an experimental Watch, Warning, & Advisory Map. Go to www.weather.gov to submit your comments!

Weather In The News

[“How Space Weather Affects Real-time Technology” \(NOAA NEWS\)](#)

[“Winter Wonder: San Francisco Sees First Snow in 35 Years” \(TIME\)](#)

[“High Winds, Dry Weather Spark Fires Across Texas Sunday” \(CNN\)](#)

[“Another Spring of Major Flooding Likely in North Central U.S.” \(NOAA NEWS\)](#)

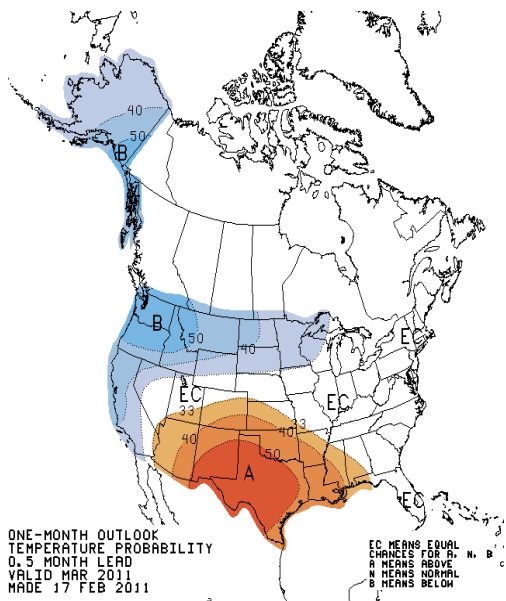
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^ Garden Valley snow berm. Image courtesy of Ron Reil, SkyWarn Spotter. Thanks for the pic, Ron!



March Outlook

<< Temperature
Outlook

Precipitation >>
Outlook

[http://
www.cpc.noaa.gov/](http://www.cpc.noaa.gov/)

